DC
2 of 6
LIMITED SERIES
DC MECH
PORTER
RIVAS
SPICER
WONDER WOMAN'S
WAR MACHINE!
AGES 13+
DCCOMICS.COM

WITNESS THE BIRTH OF THE NEW DC MULTIVERSE!

DARK CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS #4

WRITTEN BY
JOSHUA WILLIAMSON

ART BY
DANIEL SAMPERE

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DC'S BLOCKBUSTER EVENT
CONTINUES THIS SEPTEMBER

- ☐ DARK CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS #4
- ☐ THE FLASH #786
- ☐ DARK CRISIS: YOUNG JUSTICE #4
- ☐ DARK CRISIS: WORLDS WITHOUT A JUSTICE LEAGUE - WONDER WOMAN #1

FERRIS SPACECRAFT MOON BASE.
THIS IS CAROL FERRIS CALLING PROTOTYPE GL-SA-22--ARE YOU SET FOR YOUR COMBAT TEST?
BELIEVE ME, CAROL, STEWART AND I ARE READY.
I JUST HOPE YOUR FRIEND FROM THEMYSCIRA CAN HANDLE THE NEW AND IMPROVED GREEN LANTERN SUIT.
THAT'S IF YOU DON'T CRASH IT AGAIN.
HEY, YOU WORRY ABOUT THE FIREPOWER, STEWART--I'LL WORRY ABOUT THE FLYING.
READY TO ADD SOME CRATERS TO THE MOON, JOHN?
IF IT MEANS WE WIN THIS REMATCH, YOU BET YOUR LIFE, JORDAN.
LET'S LIGHT IT UP!
LANTERN--
--COMBAT MODE!
FROOOSH
KA-
CHUNG
ARE YOU SEEING THIS, CAROL?

BECAUSE FROM HERE, WE LOOK DAMN GOOD.
WELL, NOW'S THE TIME TO PUT UP OR SHUT UP, JORDAN.
HAL CAN RUN HIS MOUTH, JUST GET THE GL BACK IN ONE PIECE.
ALAN SCOTT TRUSTED MY FATHER WITH THAT LANTERN.
DIANA'S HELP WITH THEMYSCIRAN DESIGN AND ENGINEERING ONLY GOES SO FAR--
--SKILL WILL PUSH IT TO THE NEXT LEVEL.
YOU WANT NEXT LEVEL, DR. IRONS? WE'LL GIVE YOU NEXT LEVEL--
--STEWART, LET'S SHOW OUR SPARRING PARTNER WHAT WE GOT!
LET'S JUST HOPE YOU CAN LAST LONGER THAN TWO MINUTES THIS TIME.
SHOULD I TAKE THAT PERSONALLY, DIANA?
YOU BETTER, HAL, OR WE'RE GOING TO LOSE AGAIN.
THAT'S ENOUGH BANTER.
IT'S A GLORIOUS EVENING FOR FEATS OF STRENGTH, MY FRIENDS.
IT'S TIME TO TEST THE ENGINEERING OF MAN'S WORLD AGAINST WONDER WOMAN.

NOW SHOW ME WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF!
SVRAAAK
SKASH
TRY A CONSTRUCT! A HAMMER, A BASEBALL BAT-- ANYTHING!
I'M TRYING-- BUT THE RING STILL WON'T RESPOND AND MAKE SOLID CONSTRUCTS.
I'LL TRY FOR A MISSILE VOLLEY!
NOT QUITE THERE, BUT I'LL MAKE IT WORK!
VRRRK
BETTER, BUT NOT GOOD ENOUGH.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD--
WAIT... WHERE DID THE TWO OF YOU GO?
YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRACE YOURSELF, DIANA!
BECAUSE JOHN AND I ARE ABOUT TO SEND YOUR ANCIENT MECH TO THE SCRAP HEAP!
JOHN, CONSTRUCT-- NOW!

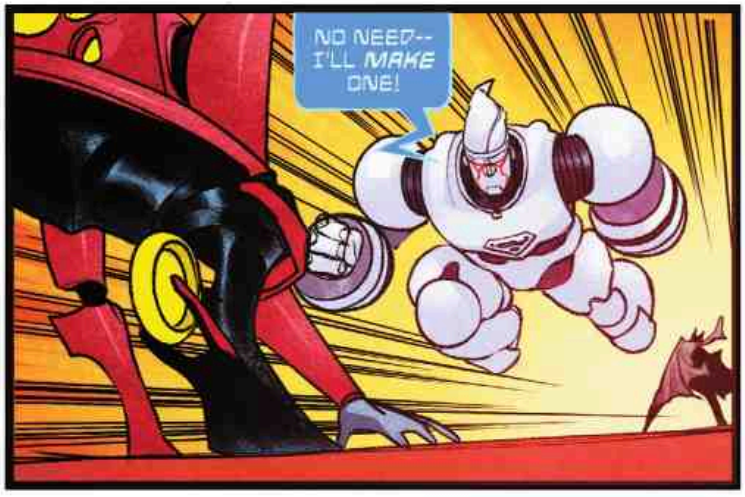
JOHN! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?!
THE RING'S NOT RESPONDING! I CAN'T GET IT TO--
ALWAYS KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE BATTLE, GENTLEMEN!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS! WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?!
NOTHING'S WRONG WITH YOU, BUDDY.
HECK, I COULDN'T EVEN GET IT TO SPARK. YOU JUST NEED TO FIND YOUR CENTER.
DIANA, YOU WANNA RESET AND GO AGAIN?
THUD
HOLD ON, JORDAN-- I'M GETTING AN EMERGENCY SIGNAL.
...DESTROYED THREE PARADEMONS IN METROPOLIS-- VIGILANTES BATMAN AND THE FLASH ARE ENGAGING, BUT THE UNIDENTIFIED ALIEN IS STILL AT LARGE!
GREAT HERA! JORDAN, STEWART--

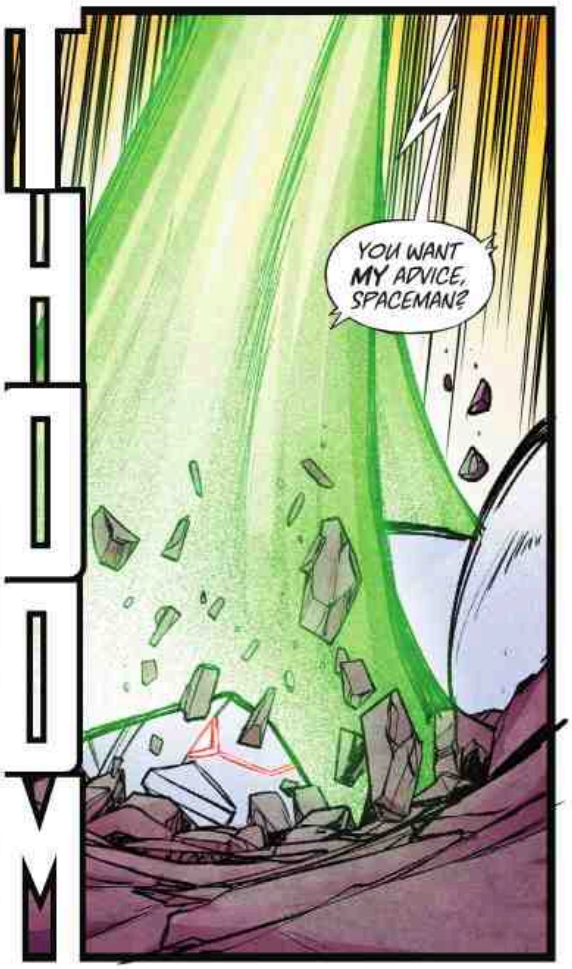
"--HOW FAST CAN WE GET TO EARTH?"
STOP THREATENING ME--I'M NOT HERE TO HURT YOU, I'M HERE TO FIGHT DARKSEID!
THEN WHY ARE YOU CRUSHING MY WRIST, KAL-EL?
MAYBE IF YOU CALM DOWN, I COULD EXPLAIN MYSELF.
NOW BACK OFF!
OOF!
THE ALIEN'S GOT SOME KIND OF STRENGTH ENHANCEMENTS--GRAB HIS MECH BEFORE IT REBOOTS!
I GOT HIM, BATMAN!
IF HE DOESN'T TURN ME INTO ROADKILL FIRST.
KELEX, YOU BACK ONLINE?
REBOOTED AND READY FOR ACTION, KAL-EL!
GOOD. WHY DON'T WE TEACH OUR RUDE FRIENDS A LESSON?

KRAK
HE GOT ONE OF MY CAMERAS!
I'M COMING IN, FLASH.
WAIT! WATCH OUT FOR THE BOOSTERS ON HIS--

WHOOSH

WE'RE NOT GOING TO FIND ANY ALLIES IN THIS CITY. LET'S LEAVE THE PLANET AND REGROUP.
YOU HAVEN'T RECHARGED AND WE'RE ONLY AT 25 PERCENT POWER.
DO YOU NEED ME TO CALCULATE AN OPTIMAL FLIGHT PATH?


NO NEED-- I'LL MAKE ONE!


YOU WANT MY ADVICE, SPACEMAN?

STAY DOWN, OR I'LL USE THIS RING TO KEEP YOU THERE.
TRUST ME, MY PAL SUCKS AT POKER. HE'S NOT BLUFFING.
BUT IF YOU WANT TO KEEP FIGHTING, I'LL BE HAPPY TO OBLIGE.
I DIDN'T WANT TO CAUSE TROUBLE, BUT YOUR FRIEND DIDN'T GIVE ME ANY CHOICE.
I'M HERE TO HELP. JUST LET ME EXPLAIN. PLEASE.
LET GO, DIANA. HE SHOWED UP AT THE SAME TIME THE PARADEMONS DID.
THAT'S NO COINCIDENCE.
THEN LET'S HEAR THE STORY HE HAS TO TELL.
I LEFT MY HOME TO JOIN MAN'S FIGHT AGAINST APOKOLIPS.
IF THIS MAN COULD BE AN ALLY, THEN I'D LIKE TO KNOW.
LET'S GO TO A PLACE A LITTLE MORE PRIVATE AND SPEAK TO OUR NEW FRIEND.
TARGET SYSTEM
FINE. WE'LL PLAY IT YOUR WAY. DEACTIVATING TARGETING SYSTEM...FOR NOW.

"BUT I'M PICKING THE VENUE FOR OUR LITTLE INTERVIEW."
PACIFIC OCEAN LEXCORP BASE
CALL FOR BACKUP!
THEY JAMMED ALL COMMUNICATIONS-- OUR BEST BET IS TO GET OUR MECHS IN THE AIR!
LISTEN TO KALIBAK, MY FURIES!
PLUNDER THEIR RESOURCES. LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED AND NO ONE LEFT ALIVE!
THA-WA-
BOOM

WE CAN'T GET AN S.O.S. OUT--LOOKS LIKE IT'S JUST US AND THE INVADERS, CORBETT.
GREAT, WE'LL GET TO FLY FOR ONCE WITHOUT YOU CALLING YOUR WEIRD GIRLFRIEND OR HER CREEPY PALS.
REMIND ME TO SOCK YOU ONE IF WE MAKE IT OUT OF THIS.
THIS IS CAPTAIN STEVE TREVOR TO ALL EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES--IF YOU CAN HEAR US, WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
CONTACT WONDER WOMAN OR ANY OF THE OTHER ENHANCED PILOTS YOU CAN FIND!
I REPEAT, CONTACT--SKTCH
CUT THE FEED, IT'S GIVING ME A HEADACHE.
YOU THINK THAT'S GIVING YOU A HEADACHE?
WAIT UNTIL I PUT MY FOOT STRAIGHT THROUGH YOUR SKULL! YOU CALL THIS PLANETARY PROTECTION?
I CALL IT RESEARCH, GENERAL LANE. CLEARLY, WE'RE WORKING WITH OUTDATED TECHNOLOGY.
TWO WORDS I DON'T LIKE ASSOCIATED WITH THE NAME LUTHOR.
WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LOSE SOME BATTLES IF WE WANT TO WIN THE WAR.
NOW TELL ME...WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS NEW ALIEN MECH THAT APPEARED IN METROPOLIS?

...AND AFTER APOKOLIPS ATE MY HOMEWORLD, MY PARENTS SENT ME OUT IN THEIR MOST POWERFUL MECH TO MAKE SURE IT NEVER HAPPENED AGAIN.
THE RESTRAINTS AREN'T NECESSARY, BY THE WAY.
THANKS, BUT I DON'T USUALLY ASK PRISONERS IF THEY WANT TO BE RESTRAINED.

SO I'M SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT YOUR PARENTS SENT THEIR ONLY SON TO EARTH TO SAVE US ALL?
WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG?
I WAS... BUSY.

"I TRIED TO BRING HOPE TO EVERY WORLD I TOUCHED DOWN ON DURING MY JOURNEY.

"I SPENT YEARS TRYING TO FIND THIS PLANET.

"BUT I KNEW IN MY HEART THAT NO MATTER WHAT, I HAD TO MAKE IT HERE--

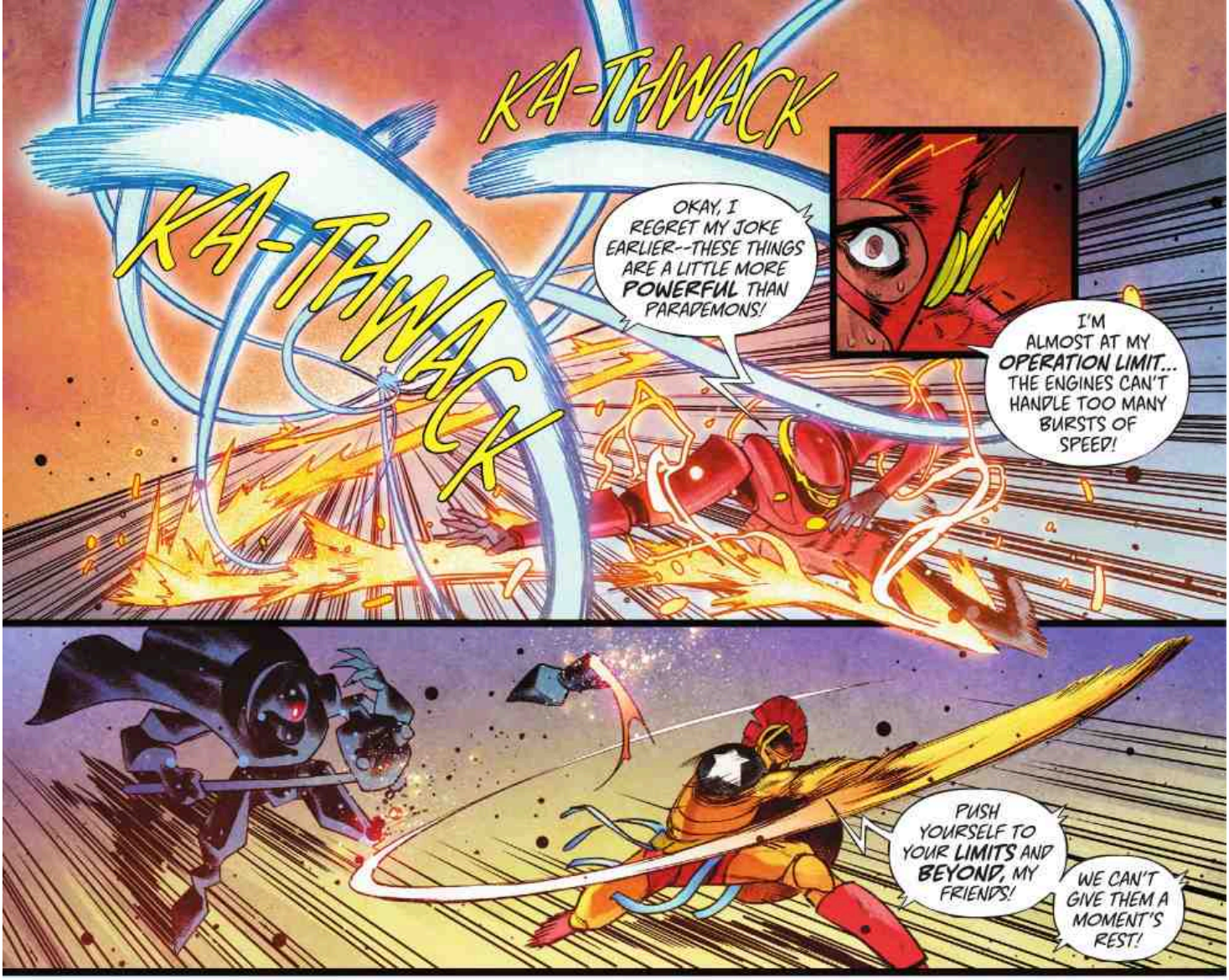
BECAUSE IF DARKSEID TAKES THE LIVES AND HOMES OF BILLIONS OF FAMILIES LIKE HE DID ON KRYPTON... I COULDN'T LIVE WITH MYSELF.
LET ME DO WHAT MY PLANET COULDN'T...LET ME HELP SAVE YOURS.

SLICE
FROM ONE OUTSIDER TO ANOTHER, I WELCOME YOUR STRENGTH. AND YOUR HEART.
I'LL FOLLOW THE PRINCESS'S LEAD... FOR NOW. YOU MIGHT NOT BE ON DARKSEID'S TEAM, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU'RE ON OURS JUST YET.
NOW IF WE'RE DONE WITH STORY TIME, WE NEED TO TALK STRATEGY.
EVERY WEAPON ON EARTH WAS BUILT TO COMBAT THE VERSIONS THAT ATTACKED BACK IN THE FORTIES. HOW ARE WE GOING TO COMPETE?
WITH BETTER PILOTS, THAT'S HOW.
THAT MEAN YOU?
WHO DID YOU THINK I MEANT? BATMAN?
WE'LL NEED TO FLY AS A SQUADRON. WITH US FLYING OUT THERE AS A TEAM, WE CAN'T LOSE!
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THAT. MY MECH'S THE MOST ADVANCED ONE HERE AND I WOULDN'T WANT TO FLY INTO A SWARM OF PARADEMONS.
WE NEED TO FIND A WAY TO UPGRADE. THERE HAS TO BE--
WHEEOOF
MY SATELLITES JUST FOUND AND UNBLOCKED A RADIO JAMMER AT A LEXCORP BASE IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN.
I'M PICKING UP A SIGNAL-- PATCHING IT THROUGH NOW.
HELLO? DOES ANYONE READ ME?!
STEVE?!

THIS IS BATMAN. I'M WITH WONDER WOMAN. GO AHEAD, CAPTAIN TREVOR.
THANK GOD! THE INVADERS HIT US HARD.
THEY STOLE SUPPLIES AND TOOK OUT ALL OF OUR MECHS. CORBETT AND I MANAGED TO SURVIVE THE ASSAULT.
BARELY.
I DON'T THINK THEY GOT EVERYTHING THEY NEEDED BECAUSE THEY'RE HEADING FOR COAST CITY.
WE CAN'T PURSUE, BUT SOMEONE HAS TO STOP THEM!
HANG ON, STEVE-- HELP IS ON THE WAY!
KRSH
DROP FROM ORBIT AND GIVE THEM HELL!
WAIT! WE STILL HAVEN'T FIGURED OUT HOW TO CLOSE THE GAP AGAINST APOKOLIPS'S TECH!
WE NEED A PLAN!
I KNOW THAT BATMAN CAN BE A BIT COLD, SIR.
BUT TRY NOT TO WORRY.
HE MIGHT SEEM HOTHEADED, BUT HE AND THE OTHERS WILL FIGHT TILL THEIR LAST BREATH.
THAT'S WHAT I'M AFRAID OF...

COAST CITY.
COOK THEM INSIDE THEIR FRAGILE METAL SHELLS, SISTERS!
KABOOM
WE SHOULD HAVE ENOUGH SUPPLIES FOR PHASE ONE OF THE CONSTRUCTION PLANS.
REGROUP AND--
SHUNK
SHUNK
SHUNK
WHO DARES STRIKE THE SON OF DARKSEID?!
THE SAME MAN WHO'S GOING TO TURN YOUR MECH INTO SCRAP.
SPREAD OUT, HIT THEM HARD, AND DON'T GET IN MY WAY.
THEIR ARMOR IS THICK, BUT WE HAVE A BETTER CHANCE IF WE ATTACK THEIR JOINTS--
WAIT! I'M ALMOST THERE--DON'T ENGAGE WITHOUT A BATTLE PLAN!
I'M BATMAN-- I ALWAYS HAVE A BATTLE PLAN.
THE QUESTION IS, CAN YOU KEEP UP, KAL-EL?

KA-THOOM
DO YOU SURRENDER? PLEASE SAY NO.
BOOM BOOM
SOMEONE SHUT THAT FOOL'S MOUTH!
FWASH
FLASH FACT-- YOU MIGHT HAVE THICKER ARMOR, BUT PHYSICS SAYS YOU'LL FALL DOWN JUST THE SAME!
EXPLAIN YOURSELF, KALIBAK.
IT'S NOTHING, MY LORD DARKSEID! IT'S JUST SOME PESKY EARTH FORCES. WE'LL SURVIVE.
IF YOU AREN'T VICTORIOUS, KALIBAK, DON'T BOTHER SURVIVING.
THE FURIES ARE IRREPLACEABLE... I CAN ALWAYS MAKE ANOTHER SON.


KA-THWACK
KA-THWACK
KA-THWACK
OKAY, I REGRET MY JOKE EARLIER--THESE THINGS ARE A LITTLE MORE **POWERFUL** THAN PARADEMONS!
I'M ALMOST AT MY **OPERATION LIMIT**... THE ENGINES CAN'T HANDLE TOO MANY BURSTS OF SPEED!
PUSH YOURSELF TO YOUR **LIMITS** AND **BEYOND**, MY FRIENDS!
WE CAN'T GIVE THEM A MOMENT'S REST!

SHLUNK
BWA-HA-HA-HA!
HERA...THEY'RE **TOO** POWERFUL. GIVE US... **STRENGTH.**

WOOSH
I'M NOT SURE WHO **HERA** IS--

THOOM
--BUT I'M WILLING TO STEP UP!
KEEP PUSHING THEM BACK, EVERYONE!
KAL-EL, YOU HAVEN'T RECHARGED YOUR CELLS WITH SOLAR ENERGY.
YOUR MECH IS OPERATING AT ONLY TWELVE PERCENT POWER AND YOUR INVULNERABILITY IS DROPPING EXPONENTIALLY.
WE JUST NEED TO GET THEM TO RETREAT.
BATMAN, HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP?
KA-CHUNG
I HAVE THE SITUATION UNDER CONTROL!
LISTEN, WE CAN'T WIN ONE-ON-ONE--NOT RIGHT NOW.
I'LL HIT HIM HIGH, AND YOU HIT HIM LOW.
I DON'T NEED YOU TO TELL ME WHAT TO DO!
MY STRENGTH AND YOUR WEAPONS ARE THE ONLY CHANCE WE'VE GOT.
FINE! GO FOR THE HEAD. I'LL HIT HIM WITH THE E.M.P.!
DID IT WORK?
FRZAAAAATT

KA-SLASH
TRY YOUR TRICKS ON LESSER BEINGS, YOU DOGS!

KAL-EL, YOUR CHEST!
JUST... GOTTA...MAKE THEM... RETREAT...

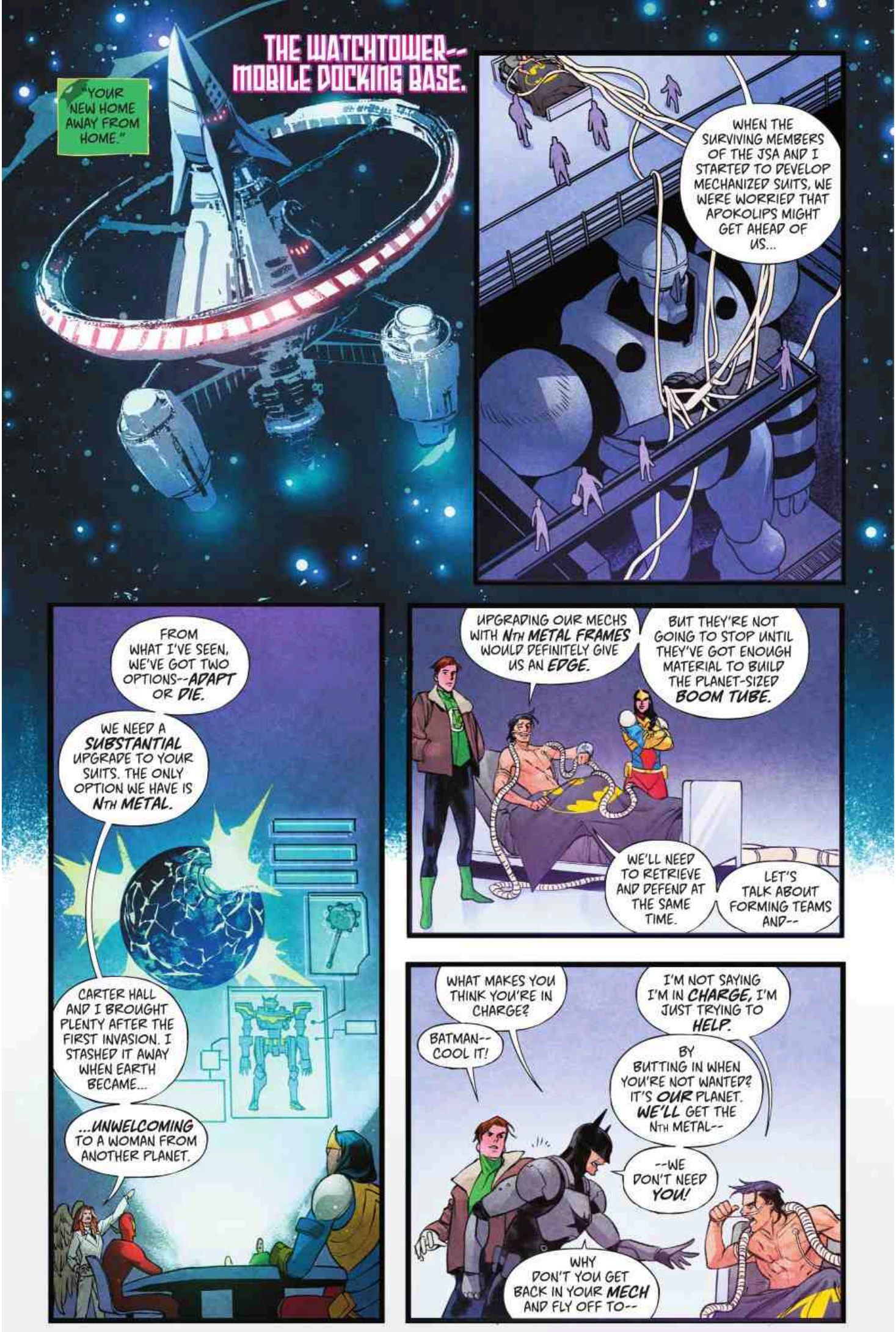
YOUR METALS AND ORES ARE OURS, EARTHLINGS!
PREPARE FOR THE COMING OF APOKOLIPS! GLORY TO THE FURIES! GLORY TO DARKSEID!

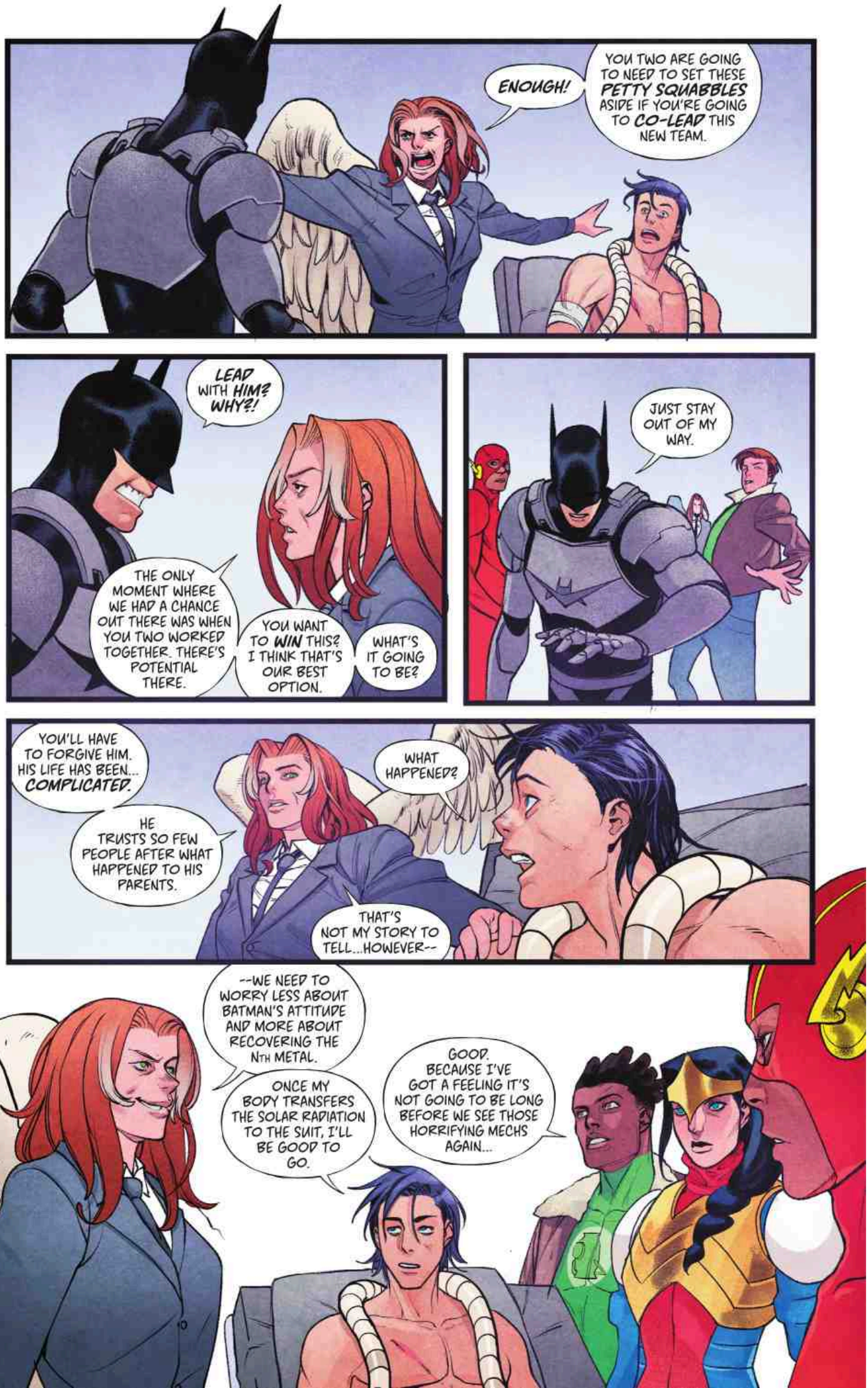
HAVE TO...FIND BOOM TUBE CONSTRUCTION SITE...

BRILLIANT PLAN. YOU LET THEM GET AWAY. YOU LEARN THAT ON KRYPTON?
COME ON, IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAD THEM. WE'RE SERIOUSLY OUTGUNNED HERE, BATS.
STUFF IT, WALLY. WE'RE SCANNING AND GOING AFTER THEM.

MECH LOCKDOWN INITIATED.
WHAT? UNDER WHOSE AUTHORITY?

MY AUTHORITY. SHIERA HALL, HAWKWOMAN.
PLAYTIME'S OVER. THE WAR IS HERE, AND YOU NEED TO STOP PILOTING LIKE YOU'RE SMASHING GIANT TOYS TOGETHER.
BATMAN... YOU HAVEN'T CALLED.
TOO BUSY TO RING YOUR GODMOTHER WHEN PARADEMONS DROP FROM THE SKY?
I WAS A LITTLE PREOCCUPIED WITH OUR NEW GUEST.
AND WHAT A GUEST HE IS. KRYPTONIAN, RIGHT?
Y-YES... I NEED TO RECHARGE. MY BODY AND MECH NEED SOLAR RADIATION...
LET'S GET THIS BRAVE YOUNG MAN SOME CONCENTRATED SUNLIGHT.
AS FOR THE REST OF YOU, IT'S TIME YOU GOT YOUR ACT TOGETHER. FOLLOW ME.
WHERE EXACTLY ARE WE GOING?


THE WATCHTOWER--MOBILE DOCKING BASE.
"YOUR NEW HOME AWAY FROM HOME."
WHEN THE SURVIVING MEMBERS OF THE JSA AND I STARTED TO DEVELOP MECHANIZED SUITS, WE WERE WORRIED THAT APOKOLIPS MIGHT GET AHEAD OF US...
FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN, WE'VE GOT TWO OPTIONS--ADAPT OR DIE.
WE NEED A SUBSTANTIAL UPGRADE TO YOUR SUITS. THE ONLY OPTION WE HAVE IS NTH METAL.
CARTER HALL AND I BROUGHT PLENTY AFTER THE FIRST INVASION. I STASHED IT AWAY WHEN EARTH BECAME...
...UNWELCOMING TO A WOMAN FROM ANOTHER PLANET.
UPGRADING OUR MECHS WITH NTH METAL FRAMES WOULD DEFINITELY GIVE US AN EDGE.
BUT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO STOP UNTIL THEY'VE GOT ENOUGH MATERIAL TO BUILD THE PLANET-SIZED BOOM TUBE.
WE'LL NEED TO RETRIEVE AND DEFEND AT THE SAME TIME.
LET'S TALK ABOUT FORMING TEAMS AND--
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU'RE IN CHARGE?
I'M NOT SAYING I'M IN CHARGE, I'M JUST TRYING TO HELP.
BATMAN--COOL IT!
BY BUTTING IN WHEN YOU'RE NOT WANTED? IT'S OUR PLANET. WE'LL GET THE NTH METAL--
--WE DON'T NEED YOU!
WHY DON'T YOU GET BACK IN YOUR MECH AND FLY OFF TO--


ENOUGH!
YOU TWO ARE GOING TO NEED TO SET THESE PETTY SQUABBLES ASIDE IF YOU'RE GOING TO CO-LEAD THIS NEW TEAM.
LEAD WITH HIM? WHY?!
THE ONLY MOMENT WHERE WE HAD A CHANCE OUT THERE WAS WHEN YOU TWO WORKED TOGETHER. THERE'S POTENTIAL THERE.
YOU WANT TO WIN THIS? I THINK THAT'S OUR BEST OPTION.
WHAT'S IT GOING TO BE?
JUST STAY OUT OF MY WAY.
YOU'LL HAVE TO FORGIVE HIM. HIS LIFE HAS BEEN... COMPLICATED.
HE TRUSTS SO FEW PEOPLE AFTER WHAT HAPPENED TO HIS PARENTS.
WHAT HAPPENED?
THAT'S NOT MY STORY TO TELL...HOWEVER--
--WE NEED TO WORRY LESS ABOUT BATMAN'S ATTITUDE AND MORE ABOUT RECOVERING THE NTH METAL.
ONCE MY BODY TRANSFERS THE SOLAR RADIATION TO THE SUIT, I'LL BE GOOD TO GO.
GOOD. BECAUSE I'VE GOT A FEELING IT'S NOT GOING TO BE LONG BEFORE WE SEE THOSE HORRIFYING MECHS AGAIN...

APOKOLIPS'S ADVANCE FLEET--
BETWEEN EARTH AND MARS.
EXPLAIN TO ME AGAIN WHY MY PLANET-CLASS BOOM TUBE ISN'T COMPLETE, KALIBAK.
A KRYPTONIAN MECH INTERVENED, MY LORD. IT SEEMS ONE OF THEM SURVIVED THE ANTI-LIFE ENGINE.
WE LOST MANY RAW MATERIALS IN THE ATTACK.
I ASKED FOR AN EXPLANATION, NOT AN EXCUSE.
I CAN FEEL THE ANTI-LIFE ENGINE'S PULL LIKE A BLACK HOLE ON MY COLD HEART.
WE'RE TOO CLOSE TO PERFECTION FOR YOUR FOLLIES NOW.
BUT THE STARS ARE ON OUR SIDE. EVEN WITH THE KRYPTONIAN, WHO ELSE WOULD DARE STAND AGAINST DARKSEID ON EARTH?
CAROL FERRIS'S OFFICE. FERRIS MOON BASE.
LUTHOR CLEARLY ISN'T UP TO THE TASK, MS. FERRIS.
THAT'S WHY I'VE COME TO YOU AND DR. IRONS. WE NEED A PLAN B.
FERRIS
MOON BASE
BE THAT AS IT MAY, WE'LL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO HELP, GENERAL LANE--
WE'VE MADE PROGRESS, BUT WITH THE COMBAT DATA THAT JOHN STEWART SENT ME...I THINK WE'VE GOT A WAYS TO GO.
YOU CAN START BY LETTING THE SMARTEST MAN IN THE ROOM HAVE THE FLOOR.
LUTHOR?! THIS IS A PRIVATE CHANNEL. HOW DID YOU GET THIS FREQUENCY?

DC COMICS PROUDLY PRESENTS

DC MECH PART 2

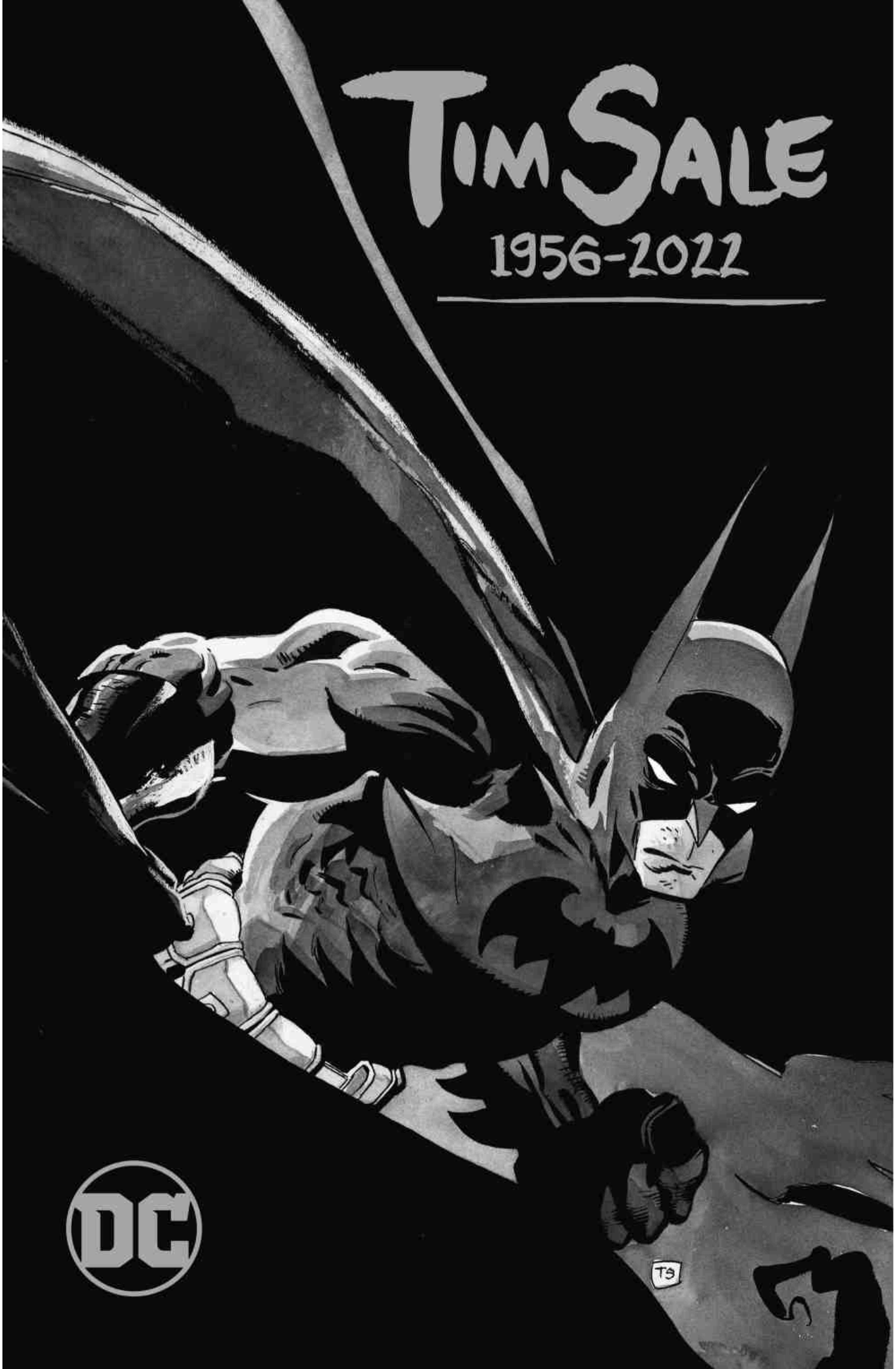
KENNY PORTER WRITER BALDEMAR RIVAS ARTIST
MIKE SPICER COLORS TOM NAPOLITANO LETTERS
BALDEMAR RIVAS COVER
DAN MORA AND RICARDO LÓPEZ ORTIZ VARIANT COVERS

I'M THE HEAD OF EARTH'S SECURITY, CAROL. NO ONE CAN EVEN WHISPER WITHOUT ME HEARING IT.
YOU KNOW, THE THREE OF YOU SCHEMING BEHIND MY BACK REMINDS ME OF GROWING UP BACK IN SMALLVILLE.
I COULD LOOK AT AN OLD TIRE AND SEE PLANS FOR THE NEXT SELF-DRIVING CAR OR FULLY ELECTRIC ENGINE.
WHILE MY SCHOOLMATES JUST TIED IT TO A TREE AND SWUNG FROM IT LIKE MONKEYS.

DAVE WIELGOSZ EDITOR BEN ABERNATHY GROUP EDITOR
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER.
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY.

TOUCHING STORY, LEX, BUT DOES IT HAVE A POINT?
I'M SAYING YOU'RE LOOKING AT A TIRE AND CAN ONLY SEE A SWING.
YOU NEED TO THINK BIGGER.
AND HOW DO YOU PROPOSE WE DO THAT?

NEXT:
HELL COMES TO EARTH!


TIM SALE
1956-2022
TS

Tim Sale left us on June 16, 2022. We were two kids who started out on DC's *Challengers of the Unknown* and over the next 30 years, he took my stories for *Batman* and *Superman* and others and made them magical. He told stories in a way that it all seemed breezy but was anything but that. It was his gift. His artwork was about creating atmosphere through shadows and angles and expression and believe it or not, desks. He drew the best desks--desks that told you what the character valued like if Tim was an art director in a film. He loved comics, baseball, the Beatles, old movies, music, noir, food, his dogs, his fans, and most of all, the love of his life, Suzy. He was kind and funny and an inspiration as to how to live one's life. I miss you, my pal.

JEPH LOEB

I've never met an artist as talented, skilled, smart, and charming as Tim. We spent a million hours talking about Norman Rockwell, Alex Toth, Ichiro, and Creedence Clearwater Revival. A *Master* storyteller, Tim Sale's art and life were a wonder to behold.

MARK CHIARELLO

Tim was not only a consummate artist and innovative creator, he was also, above all, a sensitive, kind, and loyal friend. If you ever talked to him in person, or on the phone, you knew him to be thoughtful and considerate and always genuinely interested in what you had to say. He always had time for fans and fellow professionals alike, and when he found out I was going to be alone in a new state on my birthday in 2018, he flew out from Seattle to Chattanooga to hang out and eat Mexican food together. That is the Tim I will miss most of all.

RICHARD STARKINGS

Tim Sale was an amazing artist, draftsman, and storyteller. He had that special kind of talent you encounter once in a generation. I'm convinced his work stood out because he was simply fearless. He didn't care that his work looked different from the mainstream house styles. Beyond the taut chiaroscuro style which became his trademark, Tim clearly put a premium on storytelling, clarity, and pacing--cherishing emotion above all. His stories were beautifully visceral and nuanced and evinced deep humanity. Tim simply had no use for surface banality. He was such a sweet, kind, and good-natured soul. I feel fortunate to have called him a friend and will miss him beyond words.

JIM LEE

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Swords. Sorcery. Superheroes. A new DC Universe is born.

DARK KNIGHTS OF STEEL

"A fully-fleshed out world that feels familiar yet intrinsically different... unlike anything else DC has published in recent history." –comicbook.com

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Art pictured by Dan Mora

DC

September

Written by TOM TAYLOR
Art by YASMINE PUTRI

The first volume of the high-fantasy epic, now in hardcover!

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

DARK CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS

DON'T MISS
DARK CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS #4,
ON SALE IN SEPTEMBER!

Nope, that's not a misprint in the logo up there—DC's blockbuster event *Dark Crisis* is now *Dark Crisis on Infinite Earths* as of September's issue #4, and Joshua Williamson and Daniel Sampere's epic has been revealed as the official sequel to the game-changing *Crisis on Infinite Earths* event. Hear directly from Williamson and Sampere about what to expect from this shift, and following up on Marv Wolfman and George Pérez's seminal reality-shattering epic.

WHY *DARK CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS*?

Joshua Williamson: This is something we've been keeping secret from the very beginning of this book—even when we first announced it, we never told anybody what the real title was.

The book is actually called *Dark Crisis on Infinite Earths*. There's a major moment in *Dark Crisis* #4 where the infinite Earths return. The rest of the series is about what that means to the rest of the DC Universe.

To be a sequel to *Crisis on Infinite Earths*, to carry forward that story with Pariah and the infinite Earths, has been awesome. This is not about any kind of reboot or rewriting history. It's about characters.

Daniel Sampere: I still can't believe it. When I knew this was going to happen, it was like, whoa—are we going to do this for real?

I'm the artist on the series, but I'm also a huge fan of DC. When I check *Crisis on Infinite Earths* for reference, it's unreal. I'm using this as source material for what we're doing now.

WHAT DO READERS HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO WITH THE TITLE CHANGE?

Sampere: We've been building the mysteries of this story—and at this point the big action, the big epicness you expect from a *Crisis* is coming. It's going to be a lot of fun.

Williamson: The first three issues of *Dark Crisis*, we definitely wanted to take our time with the characters, and we wanted it to be a bit of a slow burn getting these characters into place. Once we get to issue #4, it's a wild roller coaster. It is nonstop action, humongous beats, humongous moments in the DCU, huge fights with villains versus villains, and the heroes having to go up against the biggest dangers they've ever faced.

The ending of this series is so massive, and will have a major impact on the DC Universe moving forward.

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